

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01

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P R 102126Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8825

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 6139

S/NM FOR VANCE

DEA FOR EO - CUSACK

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: RECORD MEXICAN COCAINE HAUL

REF MEXICO 6065

1. WE REALIZE DEPT IS AWARE OF SUBJECT, AND THAT AMB VANCE IS PARTICULARLY INFORMED. NONETHELESS, FOR THE RECORD AND TO INFORM OTHER INTERESTED OFFICES, WE HEREBY REPORT MOST RECENT AND VERY IMPORTANT ANTI-NARCOTICS OPERATION IN MEXICO.

2. ON JULY 7, MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL PEDRO OJEDA PAULLADA ANNOUNCED THAT 100 KG OF COCAINE HAD BEEN SEIZED ON JULY 4, AND EIGHT PERSONS ARRESTED. HE SAID THE INVESTIGATION WAS CONTINUING, BUT THAT FOR MOMENT HE COULD SAY IT WAS AN INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY OF MEXICANS, COLOMBIANS AND AMERICANS, AND THAT CASES RELATED TO THIS BAND HAD RESULTED IN THE CONFISCATION OF 160 KG COCAINE SINCE FEB. 1976.

3. ON JULY 8 OJEDA HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE
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EXHIBITED 155 KG OF CONFISCATED COCAINE, RELEASED THE NAMES

OF THE PERSONS THUS FAR DETAINED, AND CHARACTERIZED
THE BAND AS ONE OF THE FIVE MOST IMPORTANT IN THE WORLD.

4. ON JULY 9, OJEDA HELD YET ANOTHER PRESS CONFERENCE,
TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE BY DEA IN WASH.
HE SAID THAT THIS CASE RESULTED FROM CLOSE COLLABORATION
BY USG AND GMM NARCOTICS AUTHORITIES; THAT IT WAS RELATED
TO 1974 SEIZURE OF 42 TONS MARIJUANA AND MAY 1975 -84
DROP OF 50 KG COCAINE IN CAMPECHE (SEE MEXICO 6065); AND
THAT THE INVESTIGATION HAD BEEN CONDUCTED FOR THREE YEARS.
HE CHARACTERIZED THE ORGANIZATION AS THE LARGEST NARCOTICS
NET IN THE WORLD, AND SAID THAT 17 PERSONS THUS FAR HAD BEEN
ARRESTED IN MEXICO AND 10 IN THE U.S. HE INDICATED IT WAS
PART OF THE KYRIAKIDES ET AL CONSPIRACY, AND NOTED THAT
KYRIAKIDES, CECILIA FALCON AND MERCEDES COLEMAN WERE AMONG
THOSE ARRESTED. ASKED ABOUT PRESS RUMORS THAT THERE WAS
EVIDENCE OF INVOLVEMENT BY SOME US NARCOTICS AUTHORITIES,
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DENIED IT COMPLETELY.

4. COMMENT: THE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES, AND MAY HAVE
FURTHER RAMIFICATIONS YET. MEANWHILE, WE ARE PLEASED
ABOUT THE SUCCESSES REGISTERED SO FAR; THE ENERGY AND
DETERMINATION WITH WHICH OJEDA IS CARRYING OUT THE IN-
VESTIGATION; AND THE CREDIT THE AG HAS RIGHTLY GIVEN DEA
FOR ITS IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS WHOLE COMPLEX CONSPIRACY
INVESTIGATION. END COMMENT.
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